"New small scale units often experience problems and delays in securing working capital finance. In order to overcome this difficulty, it has been decided that requirements of working capital upto Rs 2.5 lakhs for new tiny and small scale units, whose project cost does not exceed Rs. 5 lakhs, will be provided through a single window. Thus, both term loans and working capital will be made available by the same bank or institution. The details of this scheme will be announced by Industrial Development Bank of India shortly".

Power Generation from Hydel Sources

1909. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to give increased priority to the generation of power from hydel sources during the Eighth Plan;

(b) if so, what are the details of the funds likely to be made available for the purpose; and

(c) whether private investment on these power projects is proposed to be allowed,

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Government will accord due priority to the generation of power from hydel sources when the Eighth Plan is formulated.

(b) Funds required for implementing power projects in the Eighth Plan have not been finalised

(c) The Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956 does not preclude the expansion of the existing privately-owned power units and the possibility of the establishment of new units in the private sector when the national interest so requires.

Setting up of National Alcohol Authority

1910. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for the setting up of a National Alcohol Authority with power to control and regulate the distribution and allocation of molasses and alcohol; and

(b) if so, by when the Authority is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Review authority for drug prices

1911. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the setting up of a Review Authority to go into the prices of drugs in view of the large number of representations from drug producers disputing the price fixation formulae of the Government; and

(b) if so, by when the Review Authority is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) No such Authority has been set up.

(b) Does not arise.

Working of Public Sector Undertakings

1912. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any studies were made recently about the working of public sector undertakings, their working costs, their production, and their profits earned or losses etc.;

(b) if so, what are the results thereof; and